

TOBACCO INDUSTRY RESEARCH COMMITTEE  
150 EAST FORTY SECOND STREET NEW YORK 17, N.Y.

#186

Application For Research Grant

Date:

December 6, 1957

Applicant:

1. Name of ~~Applicant~~: Walter F. Riker, Jr., M.D.
2. Title: Professor of Pharmacology  
Cornell University Medical College
3. Institution & Address: New York State Society for Medical Research  
2 East 63 Street  
New York, N.Y.
4. Project or Subject: I am writing to ask the support of the Tobacco Industry Research Committee for the New York State Society for Medical Research. I have outlined the essential points regarding our Society and its needs. I firmly believe that our needs are basic to medical research itself and merit consideration in the same way as any other application. I hope that this will serve as application for a grant-in-aid of \$5,000 for a one year period. This might be categorized as equivalent to a small grant application, but it is my conviction that its significance is more basic, broader and equally deserving. I trust that your advisory board will agree.
5. Detailed Plan of Procedure (Use reverse side if additional space is needed):
  1. The Society is a nonprofit organization of research scientists, physicians and laymen whose purpose is to encourage and facilitate research in the biological sciences.
  2. The Society was organized in the State of New York in 1950 to combat the threat of anti-vivisectionist legislation, which if successful, would have prevented medical research in all the renowned university, institutional and industrial laboratories within the state.
  3. At the time of the legislation, medical research was continually hampered by a shortage of animals for study. Oddly, the situation in New York City has not improved much despite the Metcalf-Hatch Law, simply because the institutes, hospitals and medical schools have not had the facilities necessary to procure and transport available animals from A.S.P.C.A. shelters to the laboratories. In New York City alone last year the A.S.P.C.A. destroyed 55,603 dogs and 102,658 cats; this is regrettable when one realizes the use to which many of these animals could have been put in research and teaching.
  4. The anti-vivisectionists have utilized the procurement and transportation difficulties that have faced medical science as a propaganda weapon. They have asserted that medical science has no need for these animals doomed to useless destruction. Nothing could be further from the truth. The A.S.P.C.A., despite severe anti-vivisectionist criticism, has complied to the letter of the law and has indicated its willingness to aid the New York State Society for Medical Research in its proposed transport function.

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5. To effect the maximum benefits of the Metcalf-Hatch Law and to overcome the procurement difficulties encountered by such New York City institutions as Rockefeller Institute, Sloan-Kettering Institute, Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York University Medical College, Albert Einstein Medical School, Cornell University Medical College and the New York State School of Medicine and others, the New York State Society for Medical Research decided to assume the burden of activating an animal transport system. Accordingly, application was made to the United States Public Health Service for a grant to cover the purchase and maintenance of a vehicle designed specifically to transport animals. The United States Public Health Service saw fit to approve this request and such a truck has now been constructed. It is an ideal model of an animal transport facility. The body, on a  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ton chassis, has an aluminum exterior and a complete stainless steel interior with cages suited for dogs of varying size. Approximately 75 cats and 25 dogs can be carried comfortably. The interior is insulated, well illuminated and has arrangements for cooling, heating and drainage.

6. There is no doubt that the New York State Society for Medical Research faces a critical period. If its imminent venture fails, extremely powerful arguments would be placed in the hands of the fanatical but strong minority who clamor for repeal of the Metcalf-Hatch Law. Thus, these opponents of progress would cite medical science as disinterested in domestic animals as research material. If repeal occurs, the introduction into the State Legislature of anti-vivisectionist bills is certain. This latter would return us to the pre-Metcalf-Hatch period when these bills had to be vigorously opposed annually to preserve all animal experimentation. The New York State Society for Medical Research stands watch in this respect and is dedicated to the preservation of our existing enlightened legislation.

7. At this critical time in the New York State Society for Medical Research function, it is essential that its truly small assets be maintained. In the past, as now, the income of the Society derives chiefly from membership dues and sporadic contributory help. It now needs the solid backing that is given to medical research in other forms. It is our hope that by next year, the Society will not have to seek further foundation support. The projected plan for the coming year is clearly a pilot operation; its success will be a vital advance in medical research; its failure a serious setback, the repercussions of which would be felt on a national scale.

Specifically, these funds are requested to establish a full time Executive Secretary to relieve those research scientists who have thus far maintained and operated the Society on a voluntary basis. This full time officer is needed to:

- a. Keep contact with legislative activity in Albany.
- b. Oversee and direct a vigorous public education program on the importance and needs of medical research.
- c. Maintain public relations.
- d. Detect and counteract anti-vivisectionist attacks on medical research.
- e. Maintain membership at peak level by organizing and conducting the annual membership drive. (Membership has declined from 950 in 1951 to 600 in 1957.)
- f. Supervise the operation of the animal transport system.

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## 6. Budget Plan:

**Executive Secretary \$7,000**

Salaries

**Requested****\$5,000**

Expendable Supplies

Permanent Equipment

Overhead

Other

Total

**\$5,000**

## 7. Anticipated Duration of Work:

**One year for initiation of project (see above).**

## 8. Facilities and Staff Available:

**See above**

## 9. Additional Requirements:

**None**

## 10. Additional Information (Including relation of work to other projects and other sources of supply):

**None**

Signature

Director of Project

**Walter F. Riker, Jr.****Chairman, Animal Transport Committee**

Business Officer of the Institution

**V. E. Brooks****Treasurer**

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10. Additional Information (including relation of work to other projects and other sources of supply):  
None

9. Additional Requirements: None

8. Facilities and Staff Available:  
See above

7. Estimated Duration of Work:  
One year for initiation of project (see above).

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RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT  
ADPT.

6. Budget Plan:  
Executive Secretary \$1,000

Other  
Overhead  
Permanent Equipment  
Expandable Supplies  
Salaries

Requested

Total

\$2,000

\$2,000